

**Abstract**

It is disclosed a method of protecting a local area of components (1) from the effects of thermochemical or mechanical processes carried out on the surface (6) of the component. A masking material (5) containing at least one filler material is applied to the local area so that the local area is protected by the masking material (5). This is at least partially polymerized on the local area. Subsequently the thermochemical or physical processes on the surface (6) of the component (1) are carried out after which the polymerized masking material (5) is removed from the local area of the component (1).